

## CONGAMOND LAKES (Southwick)

## General Information:

Three basins totaling 465 acres in area make up the Congamond Lakes. They are North Pond (46 acres), Middle Pond (277 acres) and South Pond (142 acres). The lakes are located one mile east of Route 202 in Southwick. North Pond, which is the deepest basin (40 feet), contains appreciable amounts of trout water, while the Middle and South Ponds have only trace amounts. Water clarity varies with the different basins. North Pond is the clearest with a transparency of 14 feet. The bottom type throughout all basins is generally mud with scattered areas of gravel. Aquatic weeds are patchy and generally scant.

All three basins are heavily developed and consequently shoreline-fishing access is very limited. Boat access is provided by two paved ramps, both of which are located on the middle basin. Recreational usage in the summer is heavy. There is no public shoreline access on North pond, although small boats may pass under Grove Road through a culvert.

The lakes can be located on the U.S.G.S topographical quad map titled "Southwick."

## Fish Populations:

The fish population was most recently studied during a 1978 summer survey. Twelve species were collected including largemouth bass, chain pickerel, pumpkinseed, bluegill, yellow perch, longear sunfish, landlocked alewife, banded killifish, golden shiner, brown bullhead, white sucker and American eel. The most abundant gamefish is the largemouth bass, while the most abundant panfish is the pumpkinseed.

## Fishing:

The lake is stocked in the spring and fall with rainbow and brown trout. Presently, the lake produces a small number of trophy brown trout, primarily from the middle basin, but numbers have reportedly declined. Very heavy angling pressure, mostly for trout, exists from April through June. The lakes have also become host to several competitive bass tournaments in recent years. This is a four season fishing area and unsafe ice is marked out during the winter.

The warm water fish population is balanced and produces excellent fishing for largemouth bass in the summer and chain pickerel and yellow perch in the winter. The lakes have a reputation for producing trophy size yellow perch, although as with trophy brown trout, numbers have reportedly declined.

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